SHAW AT ARRAIGNMENT FILES NOT GUILTY PLEA

Given Until May 5 to File Special Writs

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By ROBERT USSERY

Clay L. Shaw, the only man indicted for participation in an alleged presidential assassination conspiracy, pleaded not guilty at his arraignment Wednesday and was given until May 5 to file special pleadings.

Attorney F. Irvin Dymond said after the arraignment that the defense had no plans at that time for requesting a change of venue, but will ask for a bill of particulars, which would specifically outline allegations against his client.

Shaw, apparently in good health and spirits, entered the court room of Criminal District Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. about 10:20 a. m. with defense attorneys Dymond and William and Edward Wegmann.

Judge Haggerty entered the court about 10:30 a. m. and asked if there were any motions from the state.

INDICTMENT READ

"The state moves for the arraignment of Clay L. Shaw," replied Assistant District Attorney William Alford.

Asked if he wanted the indictment read aloud, Dymond replied affirmatively.

Mrs. Helen Sullivan, Haggerty's minute clerk, read the entire March 22 indictment of the Orleans Parish grand jury.

"At this time my client would enter a plea of not guilty and ask for 30 days in which to withdraw the plea and file special pleadings," Dymond said after the reading.

Dymond later explained that withdrawal of the "not guilty" plea will be "merely procedural," in order that special pleadings may be filed, and will not indicate a change of plea.

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—Photo by The Associated Press.

CLAY L. SHAW (right) leaves the courthouse by car after pleading "not guilty" to the charges that he conspired to murder President John F. Kennedy. He was arraigned Wednesday. At left is Edward Wegmann, one of Shaw's attorneys.

Judge Haggerty said that the defense will have until May 30 to file pleadings, and that the state will be granted 30 days in which to answer. A mutually agreeable date for a hearing on pleadings will then be set, the judge said.

JUDGE REQUESTS

Haggerty, addressing himself to Dymond, requested that all pleadings be made at the same time.

"We will make every effort to file all pleadings at the same time, but we would not like to bind ourselves in this way," Dymond replied.

Shaw is accused of having conspired to assassinate President John F. Kennedy in September, 1963. The district attorney's office alleges that Shaw plotted with Lee Harvey Oswald and David William Ferrie in Ferrie's apartment at 3330 Louisiana ave. pkwy. during that month.

Outside the court room attorney Edward Wegman refused to give details of a defense fund which has reportedly been organized for Shaw.

"There's one in existence, yes," Wegman said. "Details will be forthcoming," he said.